

Reporting on Sustainability at KPU – Backgrounder on STARS Assessment

KPU's Environmental Sustainability Committee chose to use AASHE STARS rating system (see attached document – Measures of Environmental Sustainability as evaluated to June 30, 2015 for further definition) to quantify KPU's progress and performance in support of Vision 2018's commitments regarding enhancing environmental sustainability efforts on campus and to integrate sustainability into the core curriculum across disciplines.

The first assessment was completed in June 2015 with Karen Hearn and Betty Worobec taking the lead for the committee and preparing the draft report for the committee's review and input. Special thanks to the KSA for their contributions.

It is time to complete this year's review and assessment so that the information can be included in the Performance Report that is provided to the Board of Governors. Lori McElroy has provided the committee information as to how the committee's review is used along with copies of the reports produced (see attached Accountability Report and Vision 2018 Performance Report).

Lori's explanation is below:

The STARS scores are used as measures of sustainability in the VISION 2018 Performance Report. In the attached 2016 Interim report, these are measures 27, 28 and 29. The VISION 2018 Performance Report is produced by IAP for the KPU Board of Governors to measure progress toward the goals in VISION 2018. It is updated twice a year, with an Interim report in January/February, and a final in July. This is a public document that is posted on KPU's website. The final is also incorporated into KPU's annual Accountability Plan and Report, which is submitted to AVED in July (the most recent report is also attached). This report is posted on AVED's website, as well as KPU's. The intent is that the STARS measures would be updated annually in time for the July final report. That means we would need the scores in June.

The committee intended to start with the initial three measures and continue to evaluate additional measures each year.

Current measures include:

- Score on how well KPU promotes campus life that reflects sustainability and the informal engagement of students.
- Score on how well KPU diverts waste and conserves resources through recycling, reuse, and composting. (This information can be attained through contacting Iain Hunter)
- Score on how well KPU is institutionalizing sustainability by dedicating resources, planning for future projects and engaging the whole community in these processes.

Potential new measure to add for 2016 reporting:

[Green House Gas Emissions & Building Energy Consumption.](#)

On October 19, 2015 Iain Hunter confirmed that he and Maurice Bedard had reviewed the requirements of the above measure and determined that they anticipated that they would be able to provide information for this measure.

Note: Review needs to be completed before the end of June.